

MEDICAL DIRECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

October 14, 2004

Members Present

Carol Gilbert, M.D.
Asher Brand, M.D.
George Lindbeck, M.D.
Mark Franke, M.D.
John Rawls, M.D.
Stewart Martin, M.D.
Kimberly Mitchell, M.D.
Peter Bruzzo, M.D.
William Hauda, M.D.
Dave Garth, M.D.

Others Present

Heidi Hooker
Scott Weir, M.D.
George Brown
Randy Abernathy
Jeffrey Reynolds
Karin Bankston

Staff Present

Tom Nevetral
Warren Short
Chad Blosser
Scott Winston
Steve Puckett
Michael Berg

Item 1): Stewart Martin, M.D. (Chair) called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM in the conference room at the Office of EMS.

Item 2): Those present were asked to introduce themselves.

Item 3): Motion by Scott Weir, M.D. and seconded by Kim Mitchell, M.D. to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2004 meeting as written... Motion passed.

Item 4): Michael Berg, Office of EMS Compliance Manager, spoke to the committee on the importance of including the Regulations and Compliance personnel when a pilot program is considered so as to ensure that the regulations are followed.

Staff will attempt to research and list all of the pilot programs that the committee has reviewed and approved and any that may be on-going in the regions that may require follow up.

Item 5): George Lindbeck, M.D. presented the training outline that the Thomas Jefferson EMS Council has utilized over the years for Epinephrine Administration by the EMT-Basic. It was requested that copy of the training outline be mailed out to the committee members along with the position paper for review at the January meeting.

Dr. Lindbeck advised the committee that EMTs administered the epinephrine about forty times over a six year period with an average administration of about 10 – 12 times per year. The committee also advised that OMDs needed to get involved in this epinephrine administration program and that retraining needs to take place during the recertification period.

Dr. Lindbeck also advised that he would work with Donna Burns and Linda Johnson on developing the training outline. Staff will involve Donna Burns in the production of an EMSAT training video that can be utilized in the training of all EMT-Basics.

Item 6): George Lindbeck, M.D. presented a DRAFT copy of a letter that he had written for the Chair, Stewart Martin, M.D. in opposition to *The National EMS Scope of Practice Model* Draft 1.0 that has generated a tremendous amount of discussion in the

Virginia EMS community. The committee reviewed the letter and agreed it should be submitted to the State EMS Advisory Board for discussion at their meeting that was held on November 19, 2004. **Motion by George Lindbeck, M.D. to have the letter sent to the State EMS Advisory Board for their next meeting for inclusion in their discussions. It was seconded by Asher Brand, M.D.... Motion passed.**

It was also noted that the Chief Investigator for the document, Mr. Dan Manz will be making a presentation at the 2004 EMS Symposium at the ALS-C Meeting that will be held on Thursday November 11th. It was further noted that the proposal could lengthen the existing paramedic curricula by 180 – 220 hours. It was suggested that copies of the letter be sent to other groups of interest such as the NAEMSP, NHTSA, VAGEMSA, VAVRS, and the VFC for their comments and/ or endorsement.

- Item 7): Chad Blosser reported that all the SimMan Difficult Airway Management simulators have been picked up with the exception of one. The training sessions on the software is taking place in Williamsburg, Lynchburg and Northern Virginia.
- Item 8): Chad Blosser gave a brief update on the ALS training funds and accreditation status report.
- Item 9): Tom Nevetral will be put together a comparison summary on the Difficult Airway Management Trainer minimum specifications for discussion at the next meeting.
- Item 10): The *EMS Training Program Administration Manual* policy updates were brought up for discussion. The committee discussed a “new” policy recommendation T-665 Professional Health Occupations Paramedic Examination Eligibility that would have allowed third and fourth year medical students, dentists and chiropractors based on their prior education would be allowed to challenge the NREMT paramedic examination process. **Motion by John Rawls, M.D. and seconded by Peter Bruzzo, M.D. not to allow third and fourth year medical students, dentists and chiropractors based on their prior education to challenge the NREMT paramedic examinations...Motion passed.**

Policy T-665 as written will not be included in the *EMS Training Program Administration Manual* as proposed.

- Item 11): Warren Short advised the committee that the Office was working with a vendor on testing a pilot program to utilize approved web based education and the submission of the completion of the program via a computer flat file. The Office to hopes to be using this medium sometime in the first part of the year 2005.
- Item 12): Warren Short advised that he was pursuing the pilot EMT-Basic program utilizing competencies in lieu of Virginia practical testing. The Office is looking at January 2005 with programs in the Virginia Beach and western/southwestern areas. A comparison of a traditional EMT-Basic class versus the pilot for any statistical significance.

It was also noted that the long awaited feedback for EMT instructors and candidates is now available.

Item 13): Warren Short advised the committee that the JLARC study had completed their review of emergency medical services in Virginia and presented their report to the Commission on October 12, 2004. You can view the report at:
<http://jlarc.state.va.us/meet04.htm#October>

Item 14): Scott Winston reported that the County of Goochland had requested that localities with a population less than 50,000 to be exempt from the ambulance staffing requirements.

Item 15): Old Business - none

Item 16): New Business

- a. Carol Gilbert, M.D. requested the committee members submit comments on the "State Medical Directors Job Description" by e-mailing her at cgilbert@carilion.com
- b. Peter Bruzzo, M.D. inquired about a tactical EMS team member's individual practice and was advised that they "function under medical direction control."
- c. Question was raised by staff if there needed to be a discussion about meeting location change. The committee did not raise objections to continuing to meet at the Office of EMS.
- d. It was noted that the State EMS Advisory Board approved the EMS Specialty Medication and Procedures Schedules as presented.
- e. Michael Berg advised that the Regulation and Compliance Committee was discussing not to allow the Medications and Skills Schedules to be approved in the regulations as a "scope of practice". Discussion followed that the schedules need to have the following notation on the schedules: "Operational maximum and an educational minimum".
- f. The 2005 Medical Direction Committee meeting schedule will be as follows:
January 19, 2005
April 20, 2005
July 20, 2005
October 19, 2005

Item 17): Public Comment - none

Meeting Adjourned

NEXT MEETING: January 19, 2005 at the Office of EMS at 10:30 AM